

Serial No.: 10/047,079
Group Art Unit: 3762
Examiner: L. Deak
Atty. Docket No.: 22719-26

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Previously Presented) An implantable fluid management device, comprising:
a catheter having a proximal portion, a distal portion and an outer wall that defines an inner lumen extending between the proximal and distal portions;
a coil-shaped region formed in the distal portion and having an outer diameter, measured across the coil-shaped region, that is substantially equal to an outer diameter of the proximal portion of the catheter, the coil-shaped region forming a spiral having at least one turn; and
at least one fluid entry port formed on an internal portion of the coil-shaped region and in fluid communication with the inner lumen of the catheter.
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein the coil-shaped region has an outer diameter, measured across the spiral, that is less than about ten millimeters.
6. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein the length of the spiral formed by the coil-shaped region of the catheter, measured from a first end to a second end thereof, is in the range of about 30 to 100 mm.
7. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 6, wherein the spiral formed by the coil-shaped region of the catheter has about 1 to 10 turns.
8. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, further comprising a fluid entry port formed at a distal-most end of the distal portion of the catheter and in fluid communication with the inner lumen of the catheter.

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9. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein the number of the at least one fluid entry port is in the range of about 1 to 40.

10. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein the shape of the at least one fluid entry port is selected from the group consisting of circular, oval, and a polygon.

11. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein the catheter includes a plurality of fluid entry ports formed on an internal portion of the coil-shaped region, the fluid entry ports having a combination of varying shapes.

12. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein an area of the at least one fluid entry port is in the range of about 0.05 to 1 mm².

13. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein the catheter includes a plurality of fluid entry ports formed on an internal portion of the coil-shaped region, the fluid entry ports having a combination of varying areas.

14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein the coil-shaped portion of the distal portion of the catheter is constructed from a flexible material that is adapted to allow tensile forces to remove the spiral, and that is adapted to cause the spiral to return upon removal of the tensile forces.

15. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the coil-shaped portion of the catheter is constructed from a flexible material selected from the group consisting of silicone, silicone-like materials, shape memory materials, polyurethane, and barium sulfate loaded polymers.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15, wherein at least a portion of distal portion of the catheter is constructed from a shape memory material and exposure to an external stimulus causes the distal portion to form a spiral having at least one turn.

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17. (Original) The device of claim 15, wherein at least a portion of the outer wall of the distal portion of the catheter contains a shape memory material therein and exposure to an external stimulus causes the distal portion to form a spiral having at least one turn.
18. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 3, wherein the distal portion and the proximal portion of the catheter comprise separate elements of the catheter, the distal portion being coupled to the proximal portion by a technique selected from the group consisting of welding, bonding, molding, adhesively attaching and mechanically mating.
19. (Currently Amended) An implantable fluid management device, comprising:
a catheter having an inner lumen extending between proximal and distal ends;
a coil-shaped region formed on the distal end of the catheter and having successive turns that are spaced apart from one another by a distance that is adapted to prevent tissue from growing into the coil-shaped region, the coil-shaped region having an outer diameter, measured across the coil-shaped region, that is substantially equal to an outer diameter of the catheter, the coil-shaped region further including at least one fluid entry port in communication with the inner lumen of the catheter and formed internal to the coil-shaped region such that the at least one fluid entry port is sheltered by the coil-shaped region.
20. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 19, wherein the distance between each successive turn of the coil-shaped region is in the range of about 0 to 2 mm.
21. (Cancelled).